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FOR THE DAILY CHRONICLE.

TO MR. T. F. GORDON,  
BY BURLINGTON CHESTER, ESQ.

Whose pen to future time relates  
The tale of Pennsylvania's sires,  
Whose tales, their struggles, and their simple fates,  
To vulgar task, I deem, thy page inspires.  
To show how, 'midst the desert shade,  
The solid empires of an empire grew,  
As well as vain monarchs' palace,  
Not groined with men inflexible and true.  
Some sprung the race for civil war renowned,  
For strong battlements or sculptured domes,  
For conquest; but for taming desert ground,  
For sense of right, obedience to the law,  
And Liberty's and Man's undying, holy cause.

From the Massachusetts Daily Journal.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

**Who is she?**—There is no question that betrays greater anxiety than "Who is she?" Any thing beautiful in a fair stranger instantly strikes, and enquiry is everlastingly summed. The ideas of beauty are almost as various as the different hues of the human countenance. Feeling does not follow at all times those ideas, but the secret spell of sympathy influences the heart, and we are attentive in love without admiring. Some amateurs there are, who prefer the display of a well turned ankle to all other considerations, while many are in raptures at the "dignity and love" of action, the graceful step, the bearing eye, or the heavenly smile; but there are thousands whose sullen souls like "lamps in sepulchres," are unmoved by either. Peace to all such! the power of attraction grows with the intensity of heat; and those that have it not, cannot expect to be entertained when they cannot contribute to enjoyment.

**Who is she?** rushes into the tender bosom when she views a dangerous rival. **Who is she?** glances from the eye of the gallant, when he is cheered by the prospect of an agreeable chance, or a charming variety, and the fortune hunter, when a hint is dropped, teases you with importunities. "Who is she?" repeats the scandal bearer and the news monger, that he may ascertain the next acquaintance with his fresh acquisitions. "Who is she?" flashes from the poking stare of the dandy, when he pops his eye through the quiz glass upon a strange character, and "Who is she?" rushes from the eager gestures of old Teazle, when his shrivelled up heart is subdued by graces that despise his imbecility. The rage to live and the love of sway, are passions that strongly interest the female bosom. Age and despair are their only opiates. And though we are alternately tantalized by cold repulses and soft invitations, there is not an angel living, but who, in decorating herself, wishes to inspire the panting emotion of *who is she?*

**TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.**  
**Billet.**—The first division of this kind of writing is without doubt the *Billet doux*, which means, as the Dictionary says, "a soft note," or in other words, "a note of admiration," or to speak vernacularly, a *Love Letter*. These notes should be written in an upright hand, the better to denote the purity and uprightness of the writer's intentions, and on the whitest paper, the better to express the virgin excellence which is the subject of encomium. The answer by the way, should be on rose-coloured paper, which denotes the blushes that so well become a lady on receiving an offer. The style should be in the namby pamby; not so much so, however, as to discover an agitation; a blot now and then, or a little misspelling, provided the person is supposed able to spell correctly on common occasions, would by no means be amiss. If the lady is very young, the more mistakes she makes the better, but if she is on the discretion side of twenty, the thing must be done with the utmost attention to decorum, propriety, and correctness.

The *Billet written*, it is then necessary to consider how it should be folded. Some people double over a corner, others fold it as we should a paper to light a cigar, and then turn it so as to form a square. This is well enough, if the writer be a free-mason, and wishes to hint to his fair one his high standing in the brotherhood. Others again, twist their notes, just, if I may so say, as a washer-woman wrings a cloth; this is not a good plan, as it denotes a corresponding twofoldness in the writer's temper, and would much better become an old maid's negative answer.

**Lastly—how it should be sent.** It may be endorsed among the leaves of the last fashionable novel, at the most tender scene; or it may be slipped into the lady's indispensable, only that she may forget it, or in a fit of absence use it to curl her hair, but the best way is to send it by a younger brother. The note of interrogation, written and sent, how shall the lady receive it.

I sympathize so much, that I am unable to pursue a further division.

## VOLCANO OF POPOCATEPELT, IN MEXICO.

On the 20th April, 1827, this volcano was visited for the first time. The party consisted of Messrs. William and Frederick Glenzie, of the United Mexican Mining Company, Mr. John Taylor, and a youth named Jose Quintana; they were provided with a barometer, sextant, theodolite, &c. and some Indians to carry the instruments.

On the 19th of April they commenced the ascent of the mountain from the side of Santa Catalina, and were conducted by a guide through a wood to the upper side of some pine-trees which they found at a height of 12,544 feet above the level of the sea. Here they

passed the night, wrapped in their cloaks, beside a great fire. About twelve o'clock it rained, and afterwards a hard frost came on.

On the 20th, mounted on mules, they began the ascent by moonlight, at half past three in the morning. They soon got beyond all trace of vegetation, and arrived at a level covered with sand and loose stones, which, though rendered somewhat firm by the rain of the preceding night, nevertheless proved extremely fatiguing to the mules. They continued ascending the mountains from south to west until six in the morning, when they found it impossible to proceed farther with the mules, for, besides being overpowered by fatigue, the animals would have been unable to ascend the steep acclivity which now rose before them.

The travellers, therefore, dismounted and put on their cloaks, taking with them two skins filled with water for drink, and their barometer, which was carried by the boy Quintana. They began to ascend over a tract covered with loose sand, and fragments of pumice-stone, their object being to reach some masses of rock which appeared to be connected with the summit of the mountain. But here they experienced great difficulties, for the eminence was so steep and the ground so unsteady, that at every step they descended, they almost slipped down again. The fatigue of this exertion, joined to the diminution of atmospheric pressure, compelled them to rest at every fifteen or twenty paces. In this manner they proceeded upwards to the distance of about half a mile, when they reached the masses of rock towards which they had directed their course. Here they halted to wait for the Indians, who were ascending more slowly. Hitherto the thermometer had continued at 28 deg. Fahrenheit (2 deg. below the 0 of Reaumur); the sky was perfectly clear, but the horizon was obscured by a dense cloak of vapour, which prevented them from discerning any object. They seemed to be in the midst of an ocean of fog. At eight in the morning the sun began to be visible.

As soon as the Indians joined them they parted of a slight repast, and they then continued their journey, passing over some great loose stones, which had rolled down from the upper part of the precipice, and having lodged one against another, formed a sort of pathway. But these stones were so feebly held together, that when stepped upon they frequently rolled away, which rendered the path extremely unsafe. At this the Indians became alarmed, and showed a disinclination to proceed. However, by dint of entreaties and offers, they were induced to ascend a little higher; but finding that the road further on was as bad or even worse, they absolutely refused to advance. Perceiving an opening on the left, the travellers determined to attempt the ascent in that part, but the road was bad, and besides, the clouds in which they were enveloped prevented them from seeing their way. As it was found impossible to induce the Indians to continue the journey, they were furnished with some provisions, and directed to descend to the point where the party had slept on the preceding night.

Soon after the Indians left them, they passed the clouds, and reached an extremely steep and stony path, which they ascended with much difficulty. Fatigue, accompanied by pains in their knees, obliged them to halt at every eight or ten paces, and after journeying in this way for about an hour, they arrived at an amphitheatre of basaltic rocks, so steep that they could only ascend by climbing on their hands and feet, and that with many risks. Turning to the right, they next came to a place covered with sand, consisting, apparently, of pounded pumice stone, and they ascended to a very elevated rocky peak, which, as seen from Mexico, has merely the appearance of a small sharp point. This is a level compact mass of black basalt, resembling broken pillars, whose large crevices were filled with solid snow. Here small stones occasionally fell upon them, as if thrown down by people from above. They also began to feel headache and nausea, which proved more distressing to Quintana than to any of the party. The barometer now showed that they were 6,895 feet above the level of the sea. After partaking of some light refreshment, and resting for an hour, they resumed their journey.

Having reached the sandy slope which forms the dome or summit of the mountain, they again rested for a short time. Mr. Glenzie placed the barometer at the greatest height within their reach, and while they were engaged in observing it, Quintana suddenly fell down, overcome by fatigue and illness. He complained much of pain in his head. He had been smoking a great deal during the day, which might possibly have occasioned his illness, as drinking spirits is known to produce similar effects in elevated regions. He found himself unable to go on, and he was, therefore, directed to wait until the party should rejoin him on their return.

They now came in sight of a sandy expanse, which, on the left, was covered through with crystallized snow in conical and prismatic masses, forming pillars and Chinese-like ruins, and innumerable fanciful figures. As they proceeded to ascend, making their way through the snow, they heard a noise like that of distant thunder, which they attributed to a fall of rain in some other part of the mountain. They advanced to the distance of about a league, frequently stopping to rest, for they were much incommoded by headache, pain in the knees, difficulty of breathing, and nausea; and at five in the afternoon they reached the highest verge of the crater.

The travellers had passed the whole day in the most profound and undisturbed solitude. Not a plant, or bird, or smallest insect had been visible. In some places they found the rock broken into fragments, in others full of hollows, as if dug out, and here and there reduced to heaps of rubbish, sand, and ashes. While earnestly engaged in contemplating the grand and awful picture which extended around them, they suddenly found themselves on the brink of an immense abyss, whence issued a shower of stones, accompanied by a noise like the roaring of the sea. Here they were again seized with violent sickness, and they continued for some time in a state of insensibility. On recovering, they examined their barometer and thermometer, the only instruments they had with them. In the barometer, they found that the column of mercury had risen more than fifteen inches, and in the thermometer it varied from 35 to 39 degrees.

Proceeding to examine the crater, they discovered that almost all the stones thrown up in the eruptions fall back again into the cavity; and that the few which fall outwards descend chiefly on the south side. The noise which is constantly heard in the interior increases gradually, and then subsides after a loud crack, at which times stones, sand, and ashes are thrown up from the crater.

the top, like the radii of a circle. Three rings, or circular excavations, divide it into four zones of various sizes, the largest being that near the mouth of the crater. This upper zone is composed of limestone, and the other appears to be of sand. Snow was seen on the exterior, and the northern part of the interior of the crater. It is much lower on the eastern than on the western side. On the south side the edge was so narrow and uneven that it was not easy to walk along it, but on the north it was broader and more equal. From the summit of Popocatepetl nothing was visible but the volcano of Orizava, and the snow-capped Sierra beside it. Every other object was obscured by the clouds. Night coming on, the party returned by the same road which they had taken in their ascent, to the spot where they had left the youth Quintana. Here they intended to pass the night, and to make another visit to the summit of the mountain on the following day. But they found the boy exceedingly ill, with a feverish pulse and violent headache, so that it became necessary to convey him to some place where he might receive assistance. They carried him with great difficulty down the steep and narrow pass of Los Nevados, and when night set in they once more found themselves at the limits of vegetation. They returned to Mexico on the 22d. The highest brink of the crater of the volcano of Popocatepetl was found to be 17,884 feet above the level of the sea.

## DONALD CONALLACH.

Several ages after the events recorded in a late tradition, a terrible feud, of which we formerly gave some account arose between Macdonald of Ilay and the Glens, and Maclean of Duart. In the course of this warfare, Maclean had occasion to take hostages from Macdonald, and these remained in the strong hold of Kintyre, then fallen into his possession. Maclean having been taken prisoner by Macdonald, at his castle of Dunaverty, in Kintyre, some time thereafter, was very harshly treated and was permitted to escape with life entirely on the powerful intercession of his cousin the Earl of Argyll, having besides given hostages for the performance of the conditions imposed upon him. Mac-vic-lan, then of Ardnamurchan, went to Kintyre, and maliciously informed Macdonald that his hostages had been slain by Maclean on his arrival in Mull. Macdonald, rashly and cruelly, immediately retaliated on the hostages which Maclean had left in his hands. The next morning, however, Macdonald's hostages returned in safety from Mull. These lamentable circumstances rendered it necessary to pass the Scots Act of Parliament which makes murder under trust punishable as treason.

Maclean of Morven was one of those who suffered at Dunaverty on this occasion; and his son though then a minor, soon began to annoy the Laird of Ardnamurchan in revenge of his father's death. As these misfortunes originated in a marriage, so was it considered advisable that they should terminate; and by the mediation of mutual friends a match was concluded between the young chieftain of Morven and the daughter of Mac-vic-lan, or Macdonald. This lady was named Una; and, with the view of strengthening the alliance now happily subsisting between the two families, Maclean of Duart proposed that she should nurse his eldest son, the heir of his extensive estate which she accordingly did. Her lofty stature and sound constitution, which are still proverbial, rendered her also a very appropriate person to nurse a Highland chief, whose dignity was no insecure in those days.

In the course of some time, the young Mac-vic-lan became attached to the daughter of Cameron of Lochiel, a young lady of extraordinary beauty and merit, who had many distinguished suitors. His uncle who was denominated Mac-vic-Coin, an appellation always bestowed on the Tanister, or heir apparent, of that family, resided near Strontian, a place since well known from its lead mines, and the discovery of the earth-terminated strontites. He was a man of gigantic size and extraordinary strength, and on this interesting occasion he accompanied his nephew, the very handsome and promising young Laird of Ardnamurchan, who was commonly styled Donald Conallach, an appellation which the Macdonalds inherited from the aboriginal chiefs of the land, from whom they were maternally descended, as already mentioned. The lady was attached to Mac-vic-lan, and her father sanctioned her choice with his approbation; the terms of the contract were arranged, and a day was appointed for their marriage. The uncle returned home by the direct road, and on his arrival at his own house, his wife inquired if the marriage was to proceed? He replied in the affirmative. "Well, then," said his wife, "if your nephew shall marry Lochiel's daughter, they will employ you as a slave to hew wood and draw water for them," alluding to the influence the young man would acquire by the connexion. "By the souls of my father and grand father," said her husband, "that shall never happen!" He knew the path by which his nephew took his journey homeward, and that, loath to part even for one short week from his lovely bride, he had lingered a night behind him. Mac-vic-Coin, accompanied by a few of his followers repaired by a narrow pass at the head of Kentraugh bay, and lurking in a thick bush of birch, which still covers the spot, he there awaited the approach of the happy bridegroom, who soon appeared,—his heart elated with joy and his countenance covered with smiles. The monster shot him with an arrow and killed him.

We forbear to relate the remarks which the savage murderer made on the convulsive struggles of his dying nephew. The stream in which he fell still bears his name, the top, like the radii of a circle. Three rings, or circular excavations, divide it into four zones of various sizes, the largest being that near the mouth of the crater. This upper zone is composed of limestone, and the other appears to be of sand. Snow was seen on the exterior, and the northern part of the interior of the crater. It is much lower on the eastern than on the western side. On the south side the edge was so narrow and uneven that it was not easy to walk along it, but on the north it was broader and more equal. From the summit of Popocatepetl nothing was visible but the volcano of Orizava, and the snow-capped Sierra beside it. Every other object was obscured by the clouds. Night coming on, the party returned by the same road which they had taken in their ascent, to the spot where they had left the youth Quintana. Here they intended to pass the night, and to make another visit to the summit of the mountain on the following day. But they found the boy exceedingly ill, with a feverish pulse and violent headache, so that it became necessary to convey him to some place where he might receive assistance. They carried him with great difficulty down the steep and narrow pass of Los Nevados, and when night set in they once more found themselves at the limits of vegetation. They returned to Mexico on the 22d. The highest brink of the crater of the volcano of Popocatepetl was found to be 17,884 feet above the level of the sea.

These eruptions are frequent, and they vary in their violence. Small columns of smoke issue at various points, both in the interior and round the mouth of the crater. The crater resembles the form of a deep funnel; having round its sides longitudinal furrows, diverging from bottom to

and the natives, in crossing the pass, bless God that times are now changed. This event occurred about the year 1620.

## INUNDATED LANDS ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

LETTER from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting to Congress the information required by a resolution of the House of the 24th December last, in relation to the lands in the State of Louisiana, which are rendered unfit for cultivation by the inundations of said river. January 15, 1829.—Read and laid upon the table.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,  
14th January, 1829.

Sir: In obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 24th of December last, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to "communicate to the House any information in his possession, showing the quantity and quality of the public lands in the State of Louisiana which are rendered unfit for cultivation by the inundations of the Mississippi, and the value of said lands when reclaimed, and the probable cost of reclaiming them," I have the honor to transmit herewith a report from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, dated the 12th inst.; the statements and views contained in which are deemed to be of much interest on the subjects embraced by the resolution.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant, RICHARD RUSH,  
The Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
January 12, 1829.

Sir:—In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, "directing the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate to this House any information in his possession, showing the quantity and quality of the public lands in the State of Louisiana which are rendered unfit for cultivation by the inundations of the Mississippi, and the value of said lands when reclaimed, and the probable cost of reclaiming them," I have the honor to report that the Mississippi, in its course between the 33d degree of north latitude, the northern boundary of Louisiana, and the Gulf of Mexico, inundates, when at its greatest height, a tract of country, the superficial area of which may be estimated at 5,429,260 acres; that portion of the country thus inundated which lies below the 21st degree of latitude may be estimated at 3,183,580 acres; that portion above the 21st degree of north latitude may be estimated at 2,245,680 acres, of which 398,000 acres lie in the State of Mississippi. This estimate includes the whole of the country which is subject to inundation by the Mississippi and the waters of the Gulf. A portion of this area, however, including both banks of the Mississippi, from some distance below New Orleans to Baton Rouge, and the west bank nearly up to the 21st degree of latitude, and both sides of the Lafourche for about fifty miles from the Mississippi, has, by means of levees or embankments, been reclaimed at the expense of individuals. The strips of land thus reclaimed are of limited extent; and, estimating their amount as equal to the depth of forty acres on each side of the Mississippi, and four-fifths for the distance above stated, they will amount to about 500,000 acres, which, deducted from 3,183,580 acres, will leave the quantity of 2,683,580 acres below the 31st degree of latitude, which is now subject to annual or occasional inundations; this added to the quantity of inundated lands above the 31st degree of latitude, makes the whole quantity of lands within the area stated, and not protected by embankments, equal to 4,929,160 acres.

By deepening and clearing out the existing natural channels, and by opening other artificial ones, through which the surplus water that the bed of the Mississippi is not of sufficient capacity to take off, may be discharged into the Gulf; with the aid of embankments and natural or artificial reservoirs, and by the use of machinery (worked in the commencement by steam, and as the country becomes opened and cleared of timber by windmills,) to take off the rain water that may fall during the period that the Mississippi may be above its natural banks, it is believed that the whole of this country may be reclaimed, and made in the highest degree productive.

The immense value of this district of country when reclaimed, is not to be estimated so much by the extent of its superficies as by the extraordinary and inexhaustible quality of the soil, the richness of its products, and the extent of the population it would be capable of sustaining. Every acre of this land lying below the 31st degree of north latitude might be made to produce three thousand weight of sugar; and the whole of it is particularly adapted to the production of the most luxuriant crops of rice, indigo and cotton. Good sugar lands on the Mississippi, partially cleared, may be estimated as worth \$100 per acre, and rapidly advancing in value. The rice lands of South Carolina, from their limited quantity, are of greater value. It is believed that the exchangeable value of the maximum products of these lands, when placed in a high state of cultivation, would be adequate to the comfortable support of 2,350,000 people, giving a population of one individual for every two acres; and it is highly probable that the population would rapidly accumulate to such an extent as to banish every sort of labor from agriculture except that of the human species, as is now the case in many of the best districts of China; and this result would also have been produced in many parts of Holland, had not that country become, from the nature of its climate, a grazing country.

The alluvial lands of Louisiana may be divided into two portions; the first, extending from the 33d to the 31st degree of north latitude, in a direction west of south, may be termed the upper plain, is 120 miles in length, and generally from 25 to 30 miles in breadth, and, at particular points, is of still greater width. That portion below the 31st degree of north latitude may be termed the lower plain. It extends in a direction from north-west to south-east for about 240 miles, to the mouth of the Mississippi; is compressed at its northern point, being opening rapidly, it forms at its base a series of canals, it produces into the Gulf of Mexico, of 200 miles in extent, from the Chafalaya to the Rigoletta.

The elevation of the plain at the 33d degree of north latitude, above the common tide waters of the Gulf of Mexico, must exceed one hundred and thirty feet.

This plain embraces lands of various descriptions, which may be divided into four classes. The first class, which is probably equal in quantity to two-thirds of the whole, is covered with heavy timber, and an almost impenetrable undergrowth of cane and other shrubbery. This portion, from natural causes, is rapidly drained as fast as the waters retire within their natural channels, and possessing a soil of the greatest fertility, tempts the settler, after a few years of low water, to make an establishment, from which he is driven off by the first extraordinary flood.

The second class consists of cypress swamps; these are basins, or depressions of the surface,

from which there is no natural outlet; and which, filling with water during the floods, remain covered by it until the water be evaporated, or be gradually absorbed by the earth. The beds of these depressions being very universally above the common low water mark of the rivers and bayous, they may be readily drained, and would then be more conveniently converted into rice fields than any other portions of the plain.

The third class embraces the sea marsh, which is a belt of land extending along the Gulf of Mexico, from the Chafalaya to the Rigoletta. This belt is but partially covered by the common tides, but is subject to inundation from the high waters of the Gulf during the autumnal equinoctial gales; it is generally without timber.

The fourth class consists of small bodies of prairie lands, dispersed through different portions of the plain; these pieces of land, generally the most elevated spots, are without timber, but of great fertility.

The alluvial plain of Louisiana, and that of Egypt, having been created by the deposit of large rivers watering immense extents of country, and disengorging themselves into shallow oceans, moderately elevated by the tide, but which, from the influence of the winds, are constantly tending in a rapid manner to throw up obstructions at the mouths of all water courses emptying into them, it is fairly to be inferred that the alluvial plain of Egypt has, in time past been as much subject to inundation from the waters of the Nile, as that of Louisiana now is from those of the Mississippi, and that the floods of the Nile have not only been controlled and restricted within its banks by the labor and ingenuity of man, but have been regulated and directed to the irrigation and improvement of the soil of the adjacent plain; a work better entitled to have been handed down to posterity by the erection of those massive monuments, the pyramids of Egypt, than any other event that could have occurred in the history of that country.

That the labor and ingenuity of man are adequate to produce the same result in relation to the Mississippi river and the plain of Louisiana, is a position not to be doubted; and it is believed that there are circumstances incident to the topography of this plain that will facilitate such results.

The Mississippi river, on entering this plain at the 33d degree of north latitude, crosses it diagonally to the high lands a little below the mouth of the Yazoo: from whence it winds along the highlands of the states of Mississippi and Louisiana, to Baton Rouge, leaving in this distance the alluvial lands on its western bank; from a point a little below Baton Rouge, it takes a westerly course through the alluvial plain, and nearly parallel to the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, until it reaches the English Turn; and from thence, bending to the South, it disengorges itself into the Gulf of Mexico by six or seven different channels. The banks of the Mississippi which are but two or three feet above common tide water, gradually ascend, with the plain of which they constitute the highest ridges, to the 33d degree of north latitude, where they are elevated above the low water mark of the river from thirty to forty feet. The banks are, however, subject to be overflowed throughout this distance, except at those points protected by levees or embankments; this arises from a law incident to running water courses of considerable length, which is that the floods in them acquire their greatest elevation as you approach a point nearly equidistant from their mouths and sources. The depth of the Mississippi is from 120 to 200 feet, decreasing as you approach very near the mouth to a moderate depth. Exclusive of a number of small bayous, there are three large natural canals or channels, by which the surplus waters of the Mississippi are taken off to the Gulf. The first of these above New Orleans, is Lafourche, which leaving the river at Donaldsonville reaches the Gulf in a tolerable direct course of about 90 miles. The Lafourche is about 100 yards wide; its bed is nearly on a level with the low water mark where it leaves the river; its banks are high, and protected by slight levees; and in high floods it takes off a large column of water, which is not very much obstructed. Nearly opposite to Manchac but lower down the river, is Bayou Plaquemine, a cut-off from the Mississippi to the Chafalaya, but as there is a considerable declivity in this part of the plain, of the alluvial lands, and being unobstructed in its passage, it is rapid, and takes off a large body of water; where the river, however, is bed in five feet above the level of the low water mark. About 88 miles above Manchac and just below the 31st degree of latitude, is the Chafalaya. This is one of the ancient channels of the Mississippi river, and being very deep carries off at all times great quantities of water; and were its obstructions removed, it would probably carry off much larger quantity. As the distance from the point where the Chafalaya leaves the Mississippi, along its channel, to the Gulf, is only 132 miles, and that which the Mississippi traverses from the point of separation, to the Gulf, is 318, it is evident that a given column of water may be passed off in much less time through the channel of the latter stream. From this topographical description of that portion of the plain south of the 31st degree of latitude, it is evident that, independent of the general and gradual declivity of this plain descending with the Mississippi, it also has a more rapid declivity towards the lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain on the east, and towards the valley of the great Lake of Attakapas on the west, and it may as to its form and configuration, be compared to the convex surface of a flattened scull shell, having one of its sides very much curved, and the surface of the other somewhat indented; there is, therefore, good reason to believe that, by conforming to the unerring indications of nature and aiding her in those operations which she has commenced, this plain may be reclaimed from inundation.

The quantity of water which has been drawn off from the Mississippi, through the Iberville, the Bayou Lafourche and the Chafalaya, has so reduced the volume of water which passes off through the Mississippi proper, that individual enterprise has been enabled to throw up embankments along the whole course of that river, from a point a little below that where the Chafalaya leaves the Mississippi nearly to its mouth, and for forty or fifty miles on each side of the river, the lands thus reclaimed will not, however, average forty acres in depth fit for cultivation, and may be estimated at four hundred thousand acres. This is certainly the most productive body of land in the United States, and

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The difference between the highest elevation of the waters at the outlet of the Manchac, and the lowest level of the tide in Ponchartrain, is from 27 to 30 feet.

will be in a very short period, if it is not at present, as productive as any other known tract of country of equal extent.

If the waters drawn off in any given time from the Mississippi, through the natural channels, now formed, were delivered into the Gulf through those channels in the same given time, then they would not overflow their natural banks, and the adjacent lands would be reclaimed; but this is not the fact; and the object can only be accomplished by increasing the capacity and number of outlets of the natural channels by which the water is now disengorged, and by forming other artificial ones, if necessary, by which the volume of water that enters into the lower plain of Louisiana in any given time may be discharged into the Gulf of Mexico within the same time. If that volume were ascertained with any tolerable degree of accuracy, then the number and capacity of the channels necessary for taking it off into the Gulf might be calculated with sufficient certainty. A reference to the map of that country will show that the rivers which discharge themselves into the lower plain of Louisiana, and whose waters are carried to the Gulf in common with those of the Mississippi, drain but a small tract of upland country, for Pearl river, and, if necessary, at a very moderate expense, the Teche may be thrown into the ocean by separate and distinct channels.

At the thirty-first degree of north latitude, and near to the point where Red river flows into, and the Chafalaya is discharged from, the Mississippi, the waters of that river are compressed into a narrower space than at any other point below the thirty-third degree of north latitude; this may be considered as the apex of the lower plain. The contraction of the waters of the Mississippi at this point is occasioned by the Atchafalaya, which, during high water, is an island, and is alluvial land, but of ancient origin: from this island a tongue of land projects towards the Mississippi, which, though covered at high water, is of considerable elevation. It is probable, therefore, that, at the point thus designated, a series of experiments and adaptations could be made, by which the volume of water discharged, in any given time, on the lower plain, by the Mississippi, at its different stages of elevation, might be ascertained with sufficient accuracy to calculate the number and capacity of the channels necessary to discharge that volume of water into the Gulf of Mexico in the same time. With this data, the practicability and the expense of enlarging the natural, and excavating a sufficient number of new channels to effect this object, might readily be ascertained. If that work could be accomplished by the Government, every thing else in respect to the lower plain should be left to individual exertion, and the lands would be reclaimed as the increase of the population and wealth of the country might create a demand for them.

The contraction of the plain of Mississippi by the elevated lands of the Atchafalaya, and the manner in which Red river, which is the whole width of the upper plain, is a distance of nearly thirty miles, has a strong tendency to back up all the waters of the upper plain; therefore it is, that, immediately above this point, there is a great extent of alluvial lands, more deeply covered with water than at any other point perhaps on the whole surface of the plain of Louisiana; and at some distance from this point, the embankments of the Mississippi terminate. To enable individuals to progress with these embankments, and to facilitate the erection of others along the water courses, and to reclaim with facility, the lands of the upper plain, it will probably be found to be indispensable necessary to draw off a considerable portion of the water by artificial channels, from the Red river, arrested in its direct progress by the elevated lands, of the Atchafalaya, is deflected in a direction contrary to the general course of the Mississippi, and traverses the whole width of the upper plain in a circuitous course of upwards of thirty miles before it reaches that river. There is good reason to believe that the waters of the Red river, or a very large portion of them, in times past, found their way through Bayou Bruf and the lake of the Attakapas to the ocean; and during high floods, a small portion of the waters of that river are now discharged into the Bayou Bruf, at different points between the Atchafalaya and Rapide. A deep cut from the Red river, through the tongue of elevated alluvial land east of the Atchafalaya, and communicating with the Mississippi by a number of lakes and bayous, at different points, from near its mouth to its source, which is near the 33d degree of latitude, and through these channels aids in drawing off the surplus water of the Mississippi, while it continues to rise: when the Mississippi, however, retires within its banks, the waters in these bayous take a different direction, and are returned through the same channels into the Mississippi. Particular local causes will produce this effect at particular points; but the general cause, so far as these bayous connect with the Tensas, will be found in the fact that there is not a sufficient vent for the waters of the upper plain at the point of confluence with the lower plain of Louisiana. The Tensas is also connected, in times of high water, at several points, with the Washita and its branches. When the Mississippi has risen to a point a few feet below its natural banks, the whole of the upper plain of Louisiana is divided by the natural channels which connect the Mississippi with the Tensas, and the Tensas with the Washita, into a mass of distinct islands of various extent. The banks of the rivers, and the natural channels which connect them, are very generally the most elevated lands; and each and all these islands might be reclaimed from inundation by embankments thrown entirely around them of from six to twelve feet high; provisions being made to take off the rain water, and that occasioned by leakage and accidental entrance in the banks, with machinery. While the Mississippi is rising, the waters are carried off through these natural channels and their outlets into the lakes and the lowest and most depressed parts of the plain; during this process, there are currents and counter currents in every possible direction; but when the floods have attained their greatest known height, then this whole plain becomes covered with water, from a few inches to twelve feet deep, as its surface may be more or less depressed; and if it could be exposed to view, would exhibit the appearance of an im-

for the appointment of City Commissioners as prescribing their duties."

Sect. 1. **B**y Order Enacted and entered by the **Citizens of Philadelphia, in Sole and Common Council assembled**, That the said Commissioners shall render to the Select and Common Councils, at their first stated meeting in April next, and at their first meeting every third month thereafter, a full and true account of all the expenditures for the three previous months, stating for what purposes they were made, and to what appropriations they are charged. And at the same time transmit in their statement, an account of all our tracts entered into by them for the three previous months for City purposes.

Enacted into an ordinance at the City of Philadelphia, this 26th. day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one.

J. M. LINNARD,  
President of the Common Council.  
JOHN M. SCOTT,  
President of the Select Council.

THOMAS BRADFORD, Jr.

**SILK WORMS, COCOONS, &c.**  
The Society for the promotion of the culture of Mulberry Trees, and raising of Silk Worms, besides the offer of premiums for those objects, made considerable exertions to procure from Connecticut a person to teach the mode of winding silk from cocoons, and of making sewing silk, but without effect. They intended also, in the event of such

person being proceedit, to form a fund for the purchase of the necessary stock, and to make the necessary arrangements in this particular, they have sent to France for an experienced workman, and have received from him the following advice in time for attention to the business he is about to undertake. They therefore think proper to assure those who may wish to engage in the business of rearing Silk Worms, that they will be able to obtain the best of the cocoons at such a price as will enable them to continue their efforts, without encroaching upon the small capital which they have at their disposal. They will be able to obtain the best of the cocoons at a price amounting to a bounty, but they will give the just value of the several qualities which may be offered for sale, and they hope that those who may wish to engage in the business will be able to bring forward cocoons of the best quality; as, otherwise, they cannot be paid a price which will enable them to continue their efforts. They are now waiting for the nature of the goods upon which the Worms are fed, and to the general care taken of them during their short existence. The Society have also published a pamphlet, containing the management, to the pamphlet which they published last year, which may be had of Carey, Lea & Carey, corner of Fourth and Chestnut streets, and also of

**BENJAMIN R. MORGAN, President.**  
**M. CAREY, Secretary.**

**SUICIDE AND GAMING.**

WE copy the anecdote from the New York Commercial Advertiser:

"A gentleman who arrived yesterday morning from Philadelphia, informs us, that Mr. Joseph H. Jones, a respectable merchant of St. Louis, shot himself on Monday, at the City Hotel, in Philadelphia. It was reported that four thousand dollars had been committed to his care to pay over to sundry merchants, which had not been done, and that a slip of paper was found in his bed room, on which was written—"I did not take the money, nor did

With the individual, whose name is used in the foregoing paragraph, several years since, we had the pleasure of holding an intimate acquaintance.—We became acquainted with him whilst he resided here, in New York, in consequence of his having borne house in Philadelphia. He was a firm and sincere friend; and though at that time a mere youth, he discovered a predilection, for that most accursed of all vices, gambling. Although we did not then, as we certainly do not now, make any pretensions to extreme sanctification, we often took the liberty to remind our friend, that he was contract-

run a taste for a vice, which would terminate in ruin. To all our admonitions and advice, he turned a deaf ear. Each day, for a year, we sought to reach his heart. Each day he grew more determined that he was the more fully grasping the fiend who seduced him; and it was with the most melancholy sorrow that we saw him daily approaching the vortex, that was prepared to receive him. Circumstances, however, rendered it necessary that we should cross the wave of the Atlantic and we left Mr. Jones, to buffet the enemy that assailed him. For several years, we sustained with him an active and an interesting correspondence; but time which destroys all things, weakened our ties, and we were separated. He has since written The last letter we had from him, informed us, that he was getting the better of his propensity for play; and led us to hope for his complete reformation. — He was a gentleman in the strictest sense of the word; he was a man of great intelligence, and no man could say that he ever wronged him.

In his friendships he was ardent and sincere, and his honest heart, swelled high with those ennobling principles, which do honor to the human family.

The distressed never appeared to him in vain for aid, but ever was a gamester, and came to that un-  
lancholy end, which signified to his friends the  
Beverlys, the Mordants, and the Count Bassetts.  
Respect for his virtues and pity for his faults, have  
elicited these remarks; and whilst his follies are  
forgotten, let his merits be remembered, and let  
partial friendship

— — — — — alied one gracious tear  
On the cold grave where all his sorrows rest,  
Strew vernal flowers, applaud his love sincere,  
And bid the turf lie easy on his breast."

**LEATHER STOCKING.**—Simcon Kendall, of Ohio, who is represented as the prototype of Cooper's inimitable Leather Stocking, has applied to Congress for a pension, and the house have directed that a bill be reported in his favour. He is said to be one of the most extraordinary and interesting men now living. He entered Kentucky in 1771, and continued there through all the struggles with the Indians, sustaining his position after Bloon and his companions had fled. The anecdotes related of his adventures are said to be almost incredible. On one occasion, when taking the fort of the Indians, he was

infant settlements from the Indians by running eighty miles in one day and night, and spreading the alarm. Kendall headed the whites, and with extraordinary skill and courage, defeated the savages. He never held any military rank, but was always selected as a leader in excursions against the Indians. At one time he was taken prisoner, and the Indians had placed faggots around him to burn him alive, but he was released by the intervention of a Frenchman. In 1813, his military ardour was by no means subdued, and he rendered himself formidable to the enemy during the war, by his long rife, though attached to no regular corps. He has always been strictly temperate, but is now in penury, ex-

EMIGRATION OF THE CREEKS.


turn from the country which the U. S. Government have provided for the emigrants, in company with four of their principal chiefs, three of whom have been sent to the United States to examine and confirm the accounts which have been uniformly given of the country, and speak in the highest terms of the fertility of the soil, the abundance of game, and the salubrity of the climate.

The village, at which the emigrants are located, is on the *Vedricka River*, at the head of the Stearn Navigation, and but four miles from Canonville Gibson, where Col. Arbuckle is located. The distance is about 300 miles. The distance of the station from the mouth of the river is but 300 miles by land, though it is about six hundred by water. The country lies to the westward of the territorial limits of Arkansas, and it is an

We have seen and conversed with several of the chiefs and head men who have visited the country, some of whom are shrewd and intelligent; they are all of opinion that their condition and prospects would be incalculably benefited by a removal.

Major Walker represents the McIntosh party as sincerely desiring to forget the differences that have heretofore existed among their people.

that Chilly-M-Intosh, who is now on the Verdegris, will oppose no objection to taking a subordinate rank, and will cheerfully yield a precedence to the older chiefs. He is extremely desirous of a reconciliation. The emigrants now amount to about 1400.



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Prizes paid on demand.  
N. B. Orders from any part of the United States will be attended to as promptly as personal applications.  
Feb. 25—11